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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8**

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8EPR-ER

To: EPA Headquarters  
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Subject: **POLREP # 3**  
Highway 89 Storage Units Site  
At Three Locations:

- 1620 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Ogden, UT 84404
- 2100 Hwy 89, Perry, UT 84302
- 8823 Hwy 89, S. Willard, UT 84340

Box Elder and Weber Counties, Utah

**ABSTRACT**

Site #:	08SK	Response Authority:	CERCLA
NPL Status:	Not	Incident Category:	Fund/ <b>PRP-lead</b>
CERCLIS ID #:	UTN 000802790	RCRIS ID#:	
Reporting Period:	11/14/09 to 12/22/09	Response Type:	Classic Emergency
Contaminant of Concern:	Explosives, Toxics, Oxidizers	Contaminated Area:	Storage units/residence
Action Memo Date:	10/22/09		
Start Date:	10/09/09		
AM Amendment Date:	11/09/09	Removal Compl Date:	TBD
DO#:		Removal Ceiling:	\$2.57M

**(Updates to POLREP #2 added herein in BOLD type)**

1.1.1 Incident Category: Fund Lead with PRP takeover

This classic emergency removal was initiated on October 9, 2009, after the Region 8 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA/8) received notification from the Box Elder County Sheriff's Office (the County) that numerous drums and containers of old chemicals, used to make rocket propellants, were found in storage units at two locations in the towns of Perry and South Willard, in Utah.

## 1.1.2 Site Description

### 1.1.2.1 Location

The Highway 89 Storage Units Site is located at two locations: 2100 Hwy 89, Perry, UT 84302 and 8823 Hwy 89, S. Willard, UT 84340 in Box Elder County, Utah. In addition, as of October 15, 2009, the individual's residence at 1620 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Ogden, UT 84404 was included a third location for the Site.

### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

**(Please see POLREP #1 for additional information.)**

## 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

The County Sheriff's detective escorted the OSC and START team to visit the seven suspected storage units. All these storage units are haphazardly stacked with drums, containers, and bags of chemicals as well as other items like equipment, merchandise, furniture and other trash/junk. Some units are with strong odors of chemical vapors.

Numerous containers of hazardous materials have been found at the Site, most notably explosives, rocket propellants, oxidizers, and shock-sensitive and water-reactive chemicals. Over 7,000 chemical items, in more than 16,000 containers of various sizes, have been inventoried and classified by EPA and local haz-mat teams. **More than 150 pages of spread sheets were prepared by EPA/START to document the chemical inventory.** Individual containers, following haz-cat or characterization, were segregated into appropriate waste streams and placed in secured storage units. Various waste streams include large quantities of ammonium perchlorate (shock-sensitive) and magnesium and aluminum powders (water-reactive). With assistance from local forces, several thousand pounds of explosives materials have been removed from the Site and transported by the local bomb squads to nearby field(s) for burning or detonation.

Box Elder and Weber County Sheriff's Office provided the Site security at the three locations until all chemicals removed from the Site.

Investigations found that many of the containers were labeled as being from or associated with Thiokol (now known as ATK Launch Systems Group) a local industry focused on rocket and missile propulsion.

## 2.1.1 Narrative

**(See POLREP #1 for additional information.)**

## 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

**(See POLREP #1 for additional information.)**

## 2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identifications of PRPs

Since 10/29/09, EPA/8 has negotiated future Site characterization activities and waste disposal needs with ATK Launch Systems, Inc. (ATK), the suspected origin of a substantial number of chemicals found at the Site. EPA/8 and ATK negotiated an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) whereby ATK agreed to

remove and dispose of the remaining materials found at the Site. The AOC was signed on 11/17/09. Accordingly, ATK assumed the primary lead role for completing waste characterization as well as developing and implementing treatment options and/or disposal alternatives. On 11/17/09, pursuant to the AOC, ATK submitted a draft Work Plan and Health & Safety (H&S) Plan to EPA for review and comment. EPA/8 approved the revised Work Plan and H&S Plan on 11/23/09.

#### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

**(See POLREP #1 for additional information.)**

#### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

##### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Pursuant to the approved Work Plan, ATK personnel and contractor, Veolia Environmental Services, mobilized to the Site on 11/30/09.

**The following activities occurred at the Site 11/30 – 12/18/09:**

- EPA/8 OSC provided oversight and the local Sheriff continued providing security.
- Local Fire and Haz-mat team was on-site to assist the PRP removal operation.
- ATK personnel and its contractor, Veolia Environmental Services, performed waste stream(s) segregation, including haz-catting as necessary, and lab-packing or over-packing chemicals found at all three Site locations in anticipation of off-site disposal.
- 264 containers, including 55-gal lab-packs, 85-gal over-packs, and 1 cubic-yard cardboard boxes were transported to the Veolia facility in Henderson, CO and the US Ecology facility in Grandview, Idaho (USI) for processing. Anticipated final disposal will be at the Veolia facilities in Henderson, CO (HEN), Sauget, IL (TWI), and Port Arthur, TX, and at the US Ecology facility in Grandview, Idaho (USI).
- ATK collected cleanup efficacy wipe samples from the floors of five (5) units at EZ Access Storage and from two (2) units at Double D Storage.

##### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

- Await analytical results from efficacy wipe samples, and
- ATK submission of a Final Report.

#### 2.2.2 Issues:

Initial EPA/8 response actions were addressed in the CERCLA Removal ACTION MEMORANDUM (AM) approved by the OSC on 10/22/09. The AM Amendment, authorizing Removal continuation, a funding increase, and exemption from the CERCLA \$2 million statutory limitation, and incorporating response to the residence location, was approved by the EPA/8 Assistant Regional Administrator, OEPR, on 11/09/09. Subsequently, EPA and ATK entered into an AOC, pursuant to which ATK assumed responsibility for completing the Removal.